

A Brief Overview of Emergent Knowledge

By Matthew Hudson

Here follows a very brief overview of David Grove's Emergent Knowledge. For a fuller description see February 2008 edition of ReSource Magazine and visit www.powersofsix.com for more information on seminars and an *exclusive extract* from the forthcoming book 'The Joy of Six' by Philip Harland.

Over-riding Concepts of Emergent Knowledge

- The language used is 'Clean'
- The language used is for facilitation
- Solutions come from within the client
- The client uses the space around them

Each of these over-riding concepts is explained below:

The language used is 'Clean'

Imagine that when working with a client, we are metaphorically entering an operating theatre; we are washed and leave all traces of the outside world outside of the theatre. In the context of therapy it is the clients language and physical gestures that make up this theatre, therefore we only use what they are presenting and saying. The tools or instruments we use, i.e. our questions, are clinical. In fact their very construction limits the amount of influence they have on a client's world.

Doing this enables the facilitator to be 'Clean' in their language and behaviour, not influencing the client, only facilitating the client through their world.

The language used is for facilitation

The purpose of the facilitators' language is to ease the client into accessing the matrix of their experience. The language creates a context in which change can occur, it is facilitatory and only delivered to assist the client in navigating through their worlds.

Solutions come from within the client

As this is the clients system, the best solution for their attending problem comes from their system. In this way it will be fully congruent with the overall ecology of the client.

The client uses the space around them

There is valuable information to be gained by asking questions of the objects and spaces around the client, rather than asking the client directly, also having the client physically move through and use the space allows new information/knowledge to emerge.

Another aspect of utilising the space around the client, is that the client has the opportunity to take aspects of their problem and literally 'get them out of their heads' and place them in space. The use of space in this way thus becomes a facilitatory process to enable dissociation.

The Mission Statement

A mission statement is used as a focal point when beginning a session using spatial techniques. It is a statement written on a piece of paper and placed somewhere in the room. The client then stands in a position in respect to the mission statement.

To help the client choose what to write, ask them:

“What do you want?” or

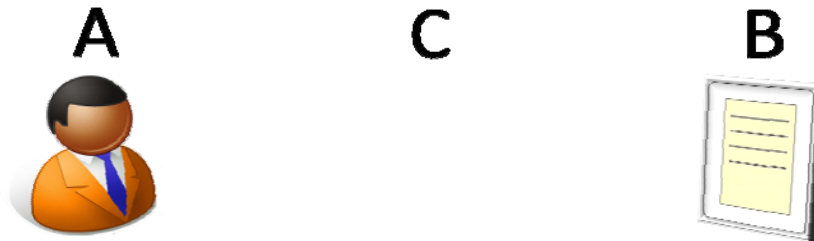
“Why did you come here?”

After the mission statement is placed in space, the client is asked to place themselves in relation to the mission statement. The facilitator may ask:

“Now, place yourself where you would like to be in relation to that.”

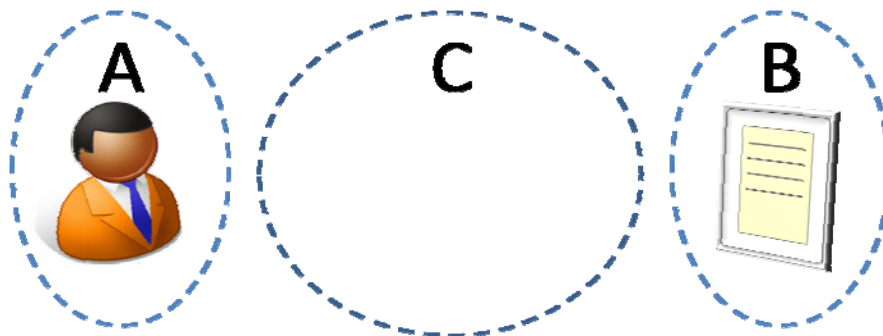
The Space of A, the Space of B and the Space of C

Writing and placing a mission statement sets up a situation where there is an observer (the client at A below), the observed (the mission statement at B) and the space in between them both (C).



When the observer chooses the place they want to sit or stand in respect to their mission statement, this place and the space around them becomes the 'Space of A', this space holds who they are and what they know at the beginning of the session.

The mission statement and the space around it is the 'Space of B' and the boundary of the space in between is the 'Space of C', the figure below shows this.



The facilitator can ask questions of the person (A), the mission statement (B) and even of the space in between (C), in the belief that space can hold information as well as the person or mission statement. The questions are not limited to only what the observer knows because information is valuable no matter where it comes from. If questions are only ever asked of the observer, there will be very interesting and useful information missed.

For further information read the full article at www.powersofsix.com